inside the coaches. However adequate drinking water arrangements have been made for the passengers at the platforms/stations.

Checks are conducted from time to time by senior officers of various Deptt. and remedial action including disciplinary action against defaulting staff is taken to correct the deficiencies.

Expansion of the Kandla Port

1967. SHRI P.S. GADHAVI : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have taken up programme for the expansion of the Kandla port and have sanctioned 30 jetties to be built up there;

(b) whether it is also a fact that there is no air link of this port at present;

(c) if so, whether the Government have any plan to air link this port with rest of the country especially Mumbai and other major cities; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the time schedule for the same?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) Kandla Port Trust has prepared a perspective Master Plan of Kandla Port for development upto the year 2020 AD. The port has constructed 7 cargo berths and 4 oil jetties. In addition, 2 virtual jetties have been constructed by IOC and Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd., and M/s IFFCO are constructing a captive liquid jetty. Tenders for 8th, 9th and 10th cargo berths have been issued.

(b) to (d). NEPC Airlines has included a twice weekly service between Kandla and Mumbai on Thursday and Saturday. Indian Airlines has no proposal to airlink Kandla at present.

New Railway Zones

1968. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR :
SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of new railway zones created so far during the current year;

(b) whether these zones have started their function;

(c) if not, the time by which the new railway zones are likely to start functioning;

(d) the amount earmarked for the functioning of the above zonal office during 1996-97;

(e) the number of new Divisional Railway Offices proposed to be set up in the new railway zones;

(f) whether the Government propose to set up a Divisional Office in Agra under Allahabad Railway Zone; and

(g) if so, the details thereof along with the time by which the work on it is likely to be started?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) to (c). The Government has decided to set up six new zonal Railway headquarters at Bhubaneswar, Allahabad, Hajipur, Jaipur, Bangalore and Jabalpur. The inaugural functions for the zonal railways have been held for Bhubaneswar on 8.8.96, Allahabad on 28.8.96, Hajipur on 8.9.96, Jaipur on 17.10.96 and Bangalore on 1.11.96.

(d) A sum of Rs. 6.81 cr. has been provided in 1996-97 for the Zonal offices.

(e) to (g). The Government has decided to set up eight new divisions at Ahmedabad, Agra, Pune, Ranchi, Raipur, Rangiya, Guntur and Singrauli. The detailed jurisdiction of the railway zones and divisions has not yet been finalised. Setting up of zones is expected to be completed in about sixty months.

Damage to Railway Line

1969. SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that due to devastating floods in 1968 in Jalpaiguri district in West Bengal, the Railway Line between Domohini and Changrabandha under North-Eastern Railway got washed away causing hardship to the people there;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to reinspect the area and review the situation to restore the line; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Domohini to Changrabandha M.G. branch line of North-East Frontier Railway got breached in the floods of 1968.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Land & structures on this section were relinquished to State Government Now there is no scheme to lay a new line on this alignment.

International Air Services from Mangalore Airport

1970. SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a proposal for operation of International Air Services from Mangalore Air-port; and

(b) if so, the details of the proposal and when the same is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) and (b). Measures are being taken to set up Customs and Immigration facilities at Mangalore Airport for a direct International Service to Dubai. No